

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF LEANDER, TEXAS**

**ORDINANCE NO. 20-088-00**

**AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE; PROVIDING FOR ITS PURPOSE, MEMBERSHIP, TERMS, AND DUTIES; AND PROVIDING FOR RELATED MATTERS.**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LEANDER, TEXAS, THAT:**

**Section 1. Economic Development Committee Established.** Article 1.05, Chapter 1, City of Leander Code of Ordinances (the “Code”) is hereby amended by adding Division 6, to be entitled “Economic Development Committee” to read as follows:

**Sec. 1.04.031. Economic Development Committee Established.**

There is hereby established an Economic Development Committee. The purpose of the Committee is to support, promote, encourage and advocate projects that expand the City’s commercial tax base in a manner that strengthens the local economy and diversifies the tax base consistent with the character of the community. The committee shall act as an advisory committee only and have no authority to make any decisions as it relates to development, incentives or authority over City staff. The Committee members shall act as a conduit of information between the business community, City Council Members and the City of Leander and shall be responsible for working with the Mayor, City Council, and City staff to facilitate development of a healthy/diversified economy in which businesses can locate/relocate/innovate/grow and prosper, and all residents have opportunities for economic prosperity.

**Sec. 1.04.032. Membership; Qualifications; Meetings.**

- (a) The Committee shall be comprised of no less than 7 members and no more than 15 members with preference given to individuals with professional expertise in the following sectors: Education, Real Estate, Industrial, Technology, Non-Profit, Small Business, Retail, Banking and Utilities. There shall be a minimum of \_\_\_\_ citizen members and one City Council liaison. The Economic Director or his appointee shall act as the City staff liaison for the committee.
- (b) To be eligible to serve on the Committee, members shall either be Leander citizens or shall own property or a business that operates in the City. Citizen members must be registered voters.
- (c) The Committee would meet no less than once a quarter.

**Sec. 1.04.033. Duties and Responsibilities.**

The Committee shall have the following duties and responsibilities.

- (a) To identify and promote economic opportunities that benefit residents, businesses, communities, and The City of Leander.
- (b) Support, promote, encourage and advocate projects that expand the City's commercial tax base in a manner that strengthens the local economy and diversifies the tax base consistent with the character of our community.
- (c) Provide feedback to both the Citizens of Leander and City Staff through research, information and a common goal consistent with the City's Master Plan, Comprehensive Plan and Council's direction.
- (d) Identify changing economic trends and development resources available to the City of Leander.
- (e) Develop and advocate for an economic development strategy that maximizes commercial property tax revenues and generates employment opportunities as part of a broader, long-range strategic plan for the community as established by City Staff and Council.
- (f) Continuously review Leander's regulations and zoning for consistency with the City's economic development goals, and to make any applicable recommendations to improve permitting, licensing and regulatory functions.
- (g) Promote streamlining the City's regulatory processes as related to commercial development.
- (h) Advocate for state and federal legislation and regulations that advance economic development in Leander and the Region.
- (i) Work with staff to obtain Federal and state grant funds to further the economic development strategy.
- (j) Support and encourage new businesses seeking to locate in Leander and existing businesses seeking to remain or expand in the City.
- (k) Prepare and distribute material and data advertising the advantages of the City for the purpose of attracting appropriate non-residential development.
- (l) Act as a source for business leads that will be brought to the attention of the City staff liaison. The Committee is also responsible for providing information to staff relative to business development situations perceived or real affecting the business climate within the City.
- (m) Develop and maintain inventory of government sponsored business grants and loans along with other benefits available to those operating within the City.
- (n) Determine the desirability of an EDC section under the City home webpage promoting Leander's business environment and to develop the general content thereof.


- (o) Recommend the creation of multi-media presentations promoting Leander's business opportunities.
- (p) Develop regularly scheduled progress reports to the Mayor and City Council.

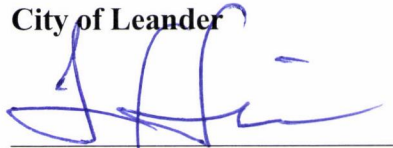
**Section 2. Amendment.** Article 1.04 of the Code is hereby amended as provided herein. In the event of a conflict between the Code or another ordinance of the City and this Ordinance, this Ordinance shall control.

**Section 3. Open Meetings.** It is hereby officially found and determined that the meeting at which this ordinance is passed was open to the public as required and that public notice of the time, place, and purpose of said meeting was given as required by the Open Meetings Act, *Chapt. 551, Tex. Gov't. Code.*

**Section 4. Effective Date.** This Ordinance shall take effect immediately from and after its passage and publication in accordance with the provisions of the Texas Local Government Code.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this the 3rd day of December, 2020.

  
Dara Crabtree, City Secretary

City of Leander  
  
Troy Hill, Mayor

